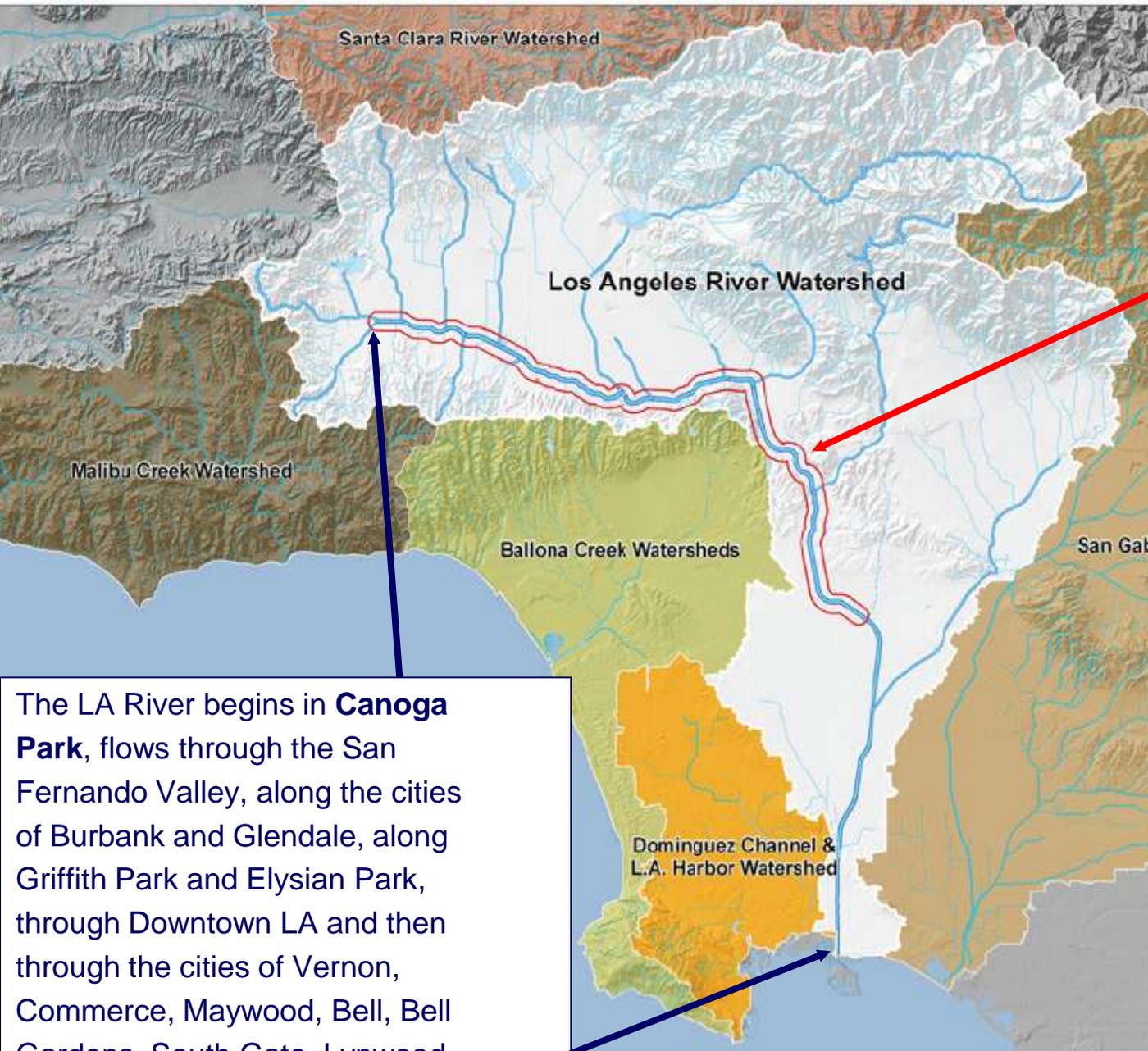


**Joint Hearing of the California Legislature:
*Progress and Opportunity—The Future of the Los Angeles River
and its San Fernando Valley Tributaries***



**Presentation by: Gary Lee Moore, P.E., City Engineer, City of Los Angeles
October 12, 2011**



LA River Watershed:
870 square miles

LA River:
51 miles

1st 32 miles in City of LA

Elevation at Origin
(Canoga Park):
772 feet

Elevation at Outlet
(Pacific Ocean):
0 feet

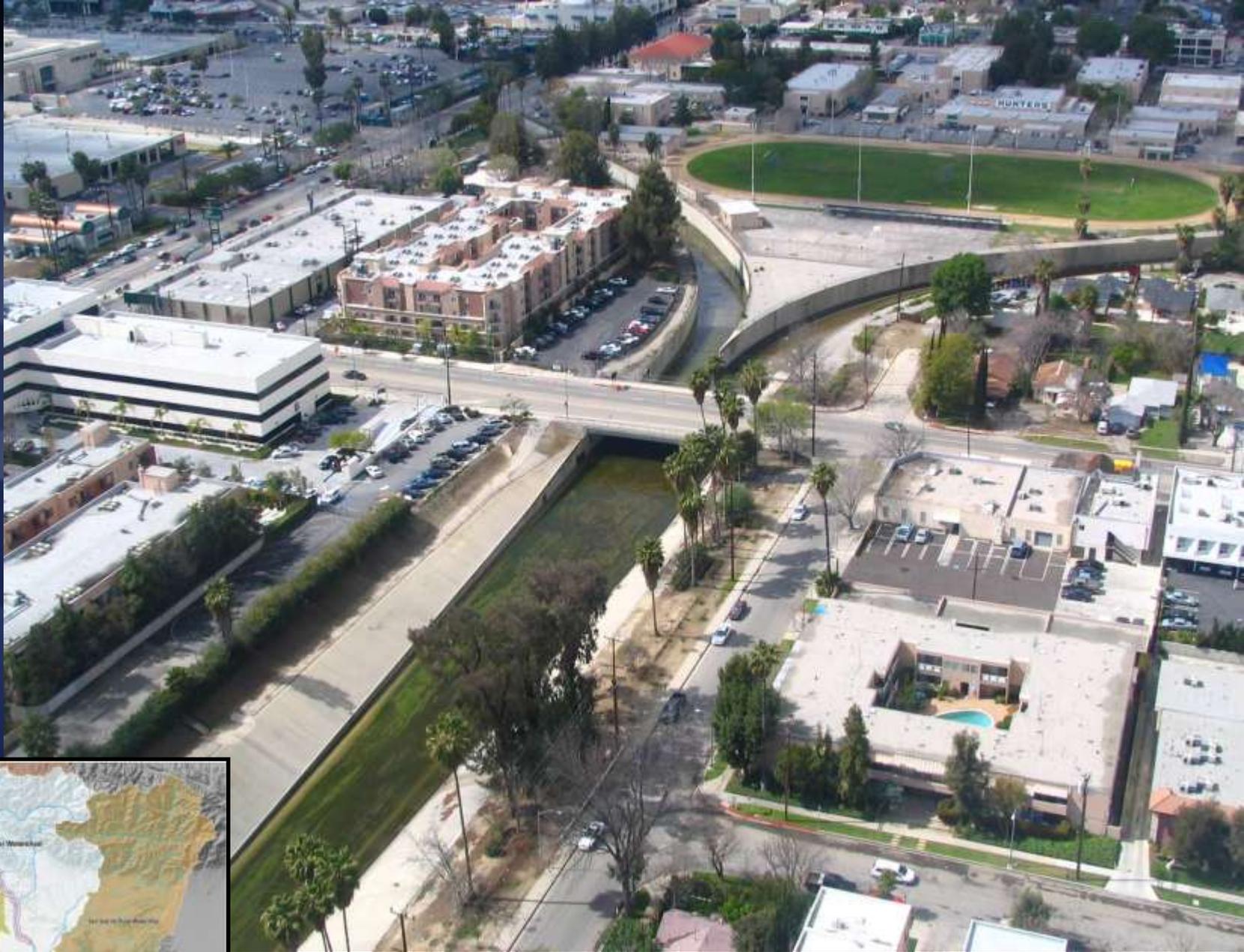
Avg. Slope:
0.29%

Avg. Annual
Precipitation:
15 inches

Avg. Daily Discharge:
320 cfs or 207 mgd

The LA River begins in **Canoga Park**, flows through the San Fernando Valley, along the cities of Burbank and Glendale, along Griffith Park and Elysian Park, through Downtown LA and then through the cities of Vernon, Commerce, Maywood, Bell, Bell Gardens, South Gate, Lynwood, Compton, Paramount, Carson, and **Long Beach**

The LA River flows through the nation's 2nd largest urban region, into 2 of the world's busiest port regions, and into the world's largest water body.



**Beginning of the LA River in the San Fernando Valley—
Community of Canoga Park**

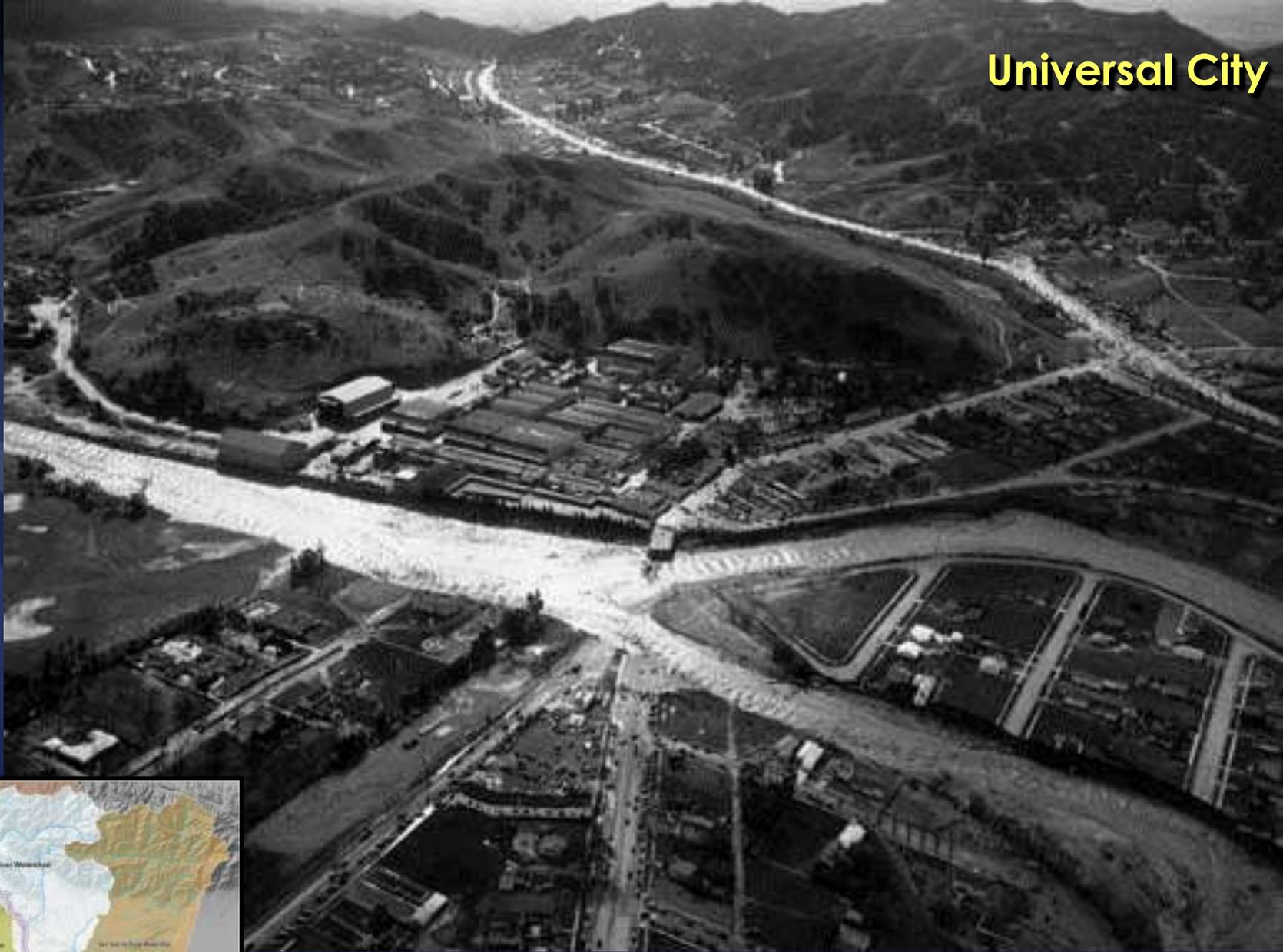


The Sepulveda Basin



Studio City

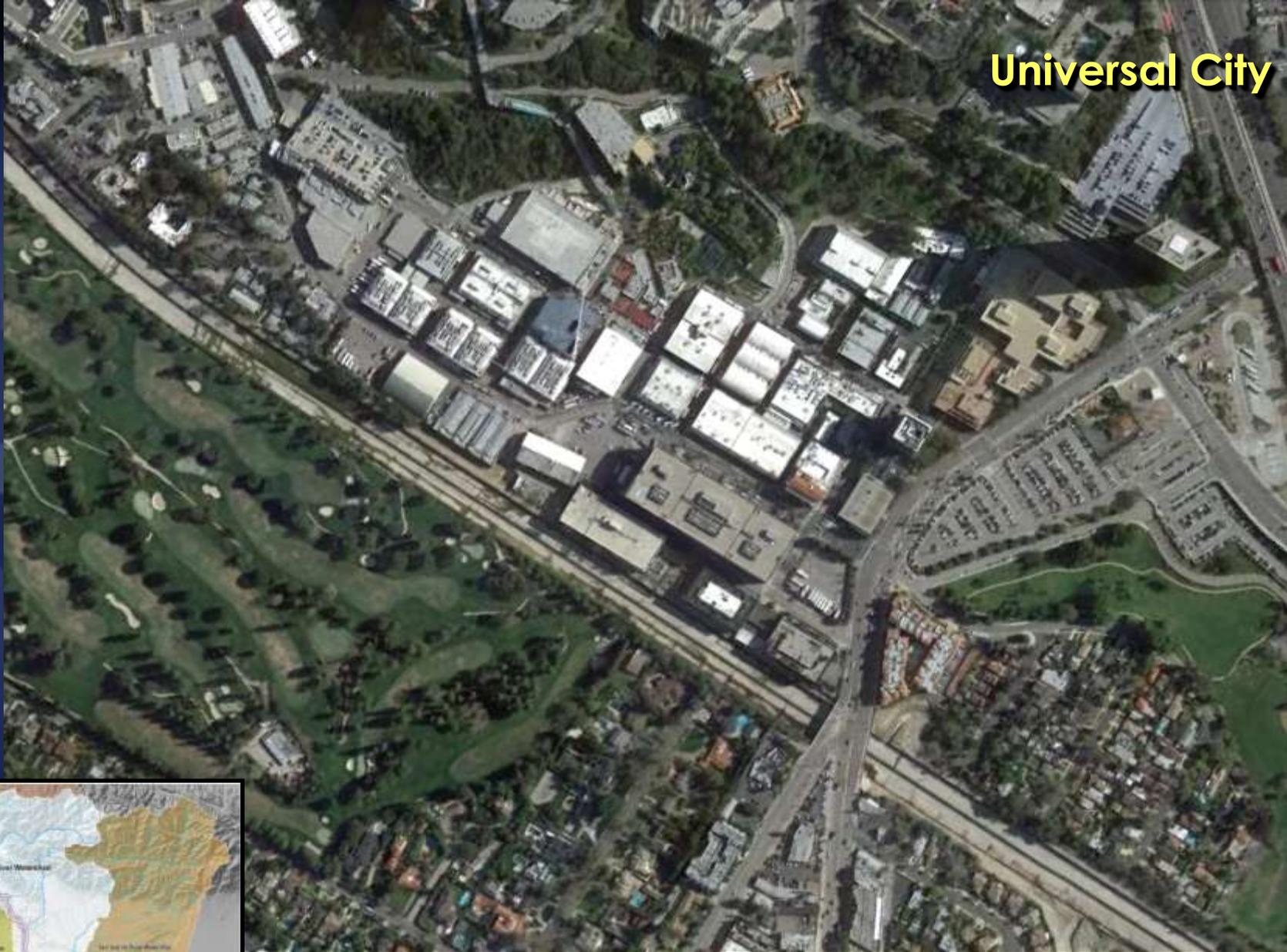
Universal City



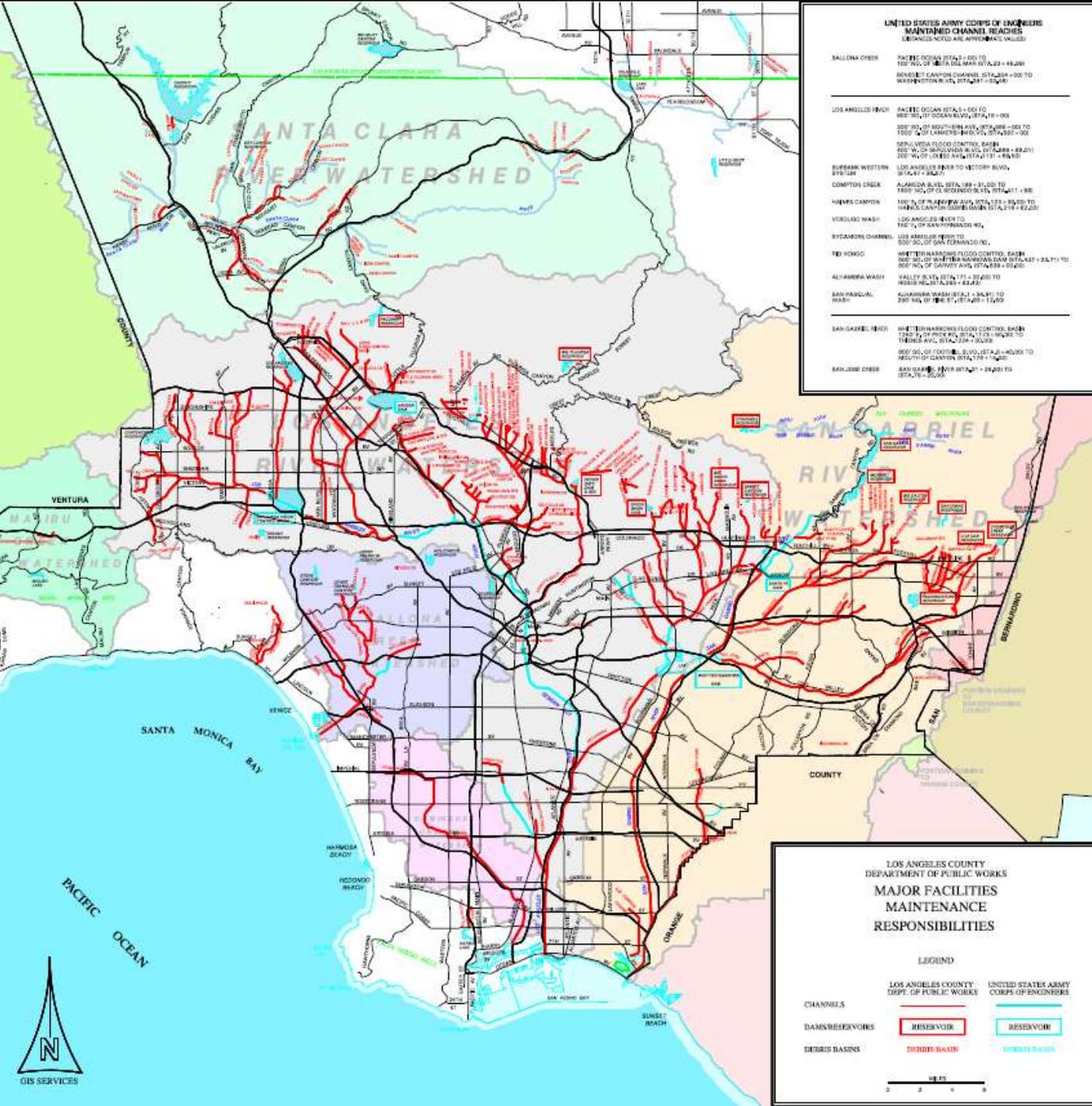
1938: Lankershim Bridge Washed Out



Universal City



Contemporary Landscape

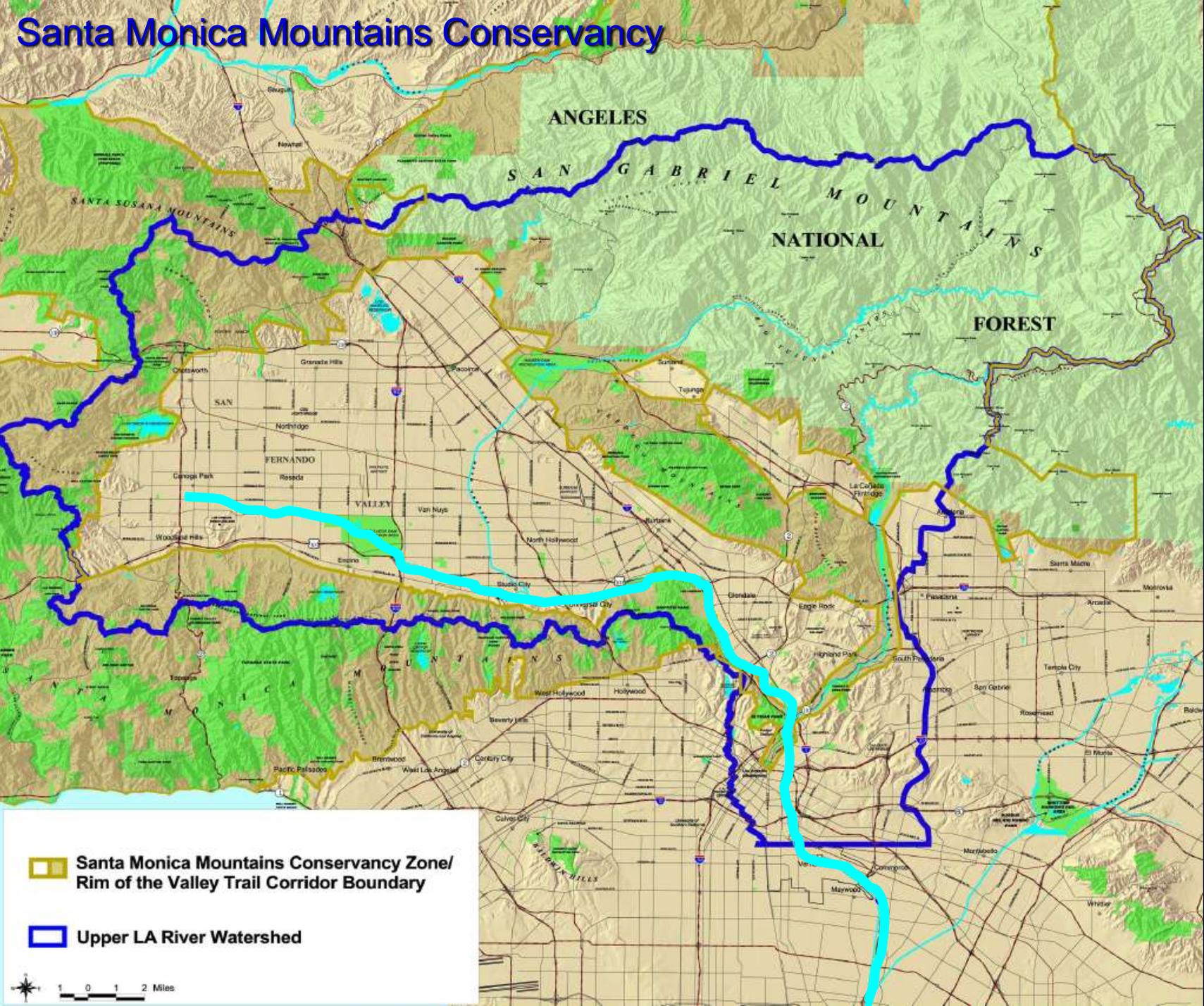


LA River Watershed Flood Management Operation and Maintenance Jurisdiction: Shared between US Army Corps of Engineers and LA County Flood Control District



Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

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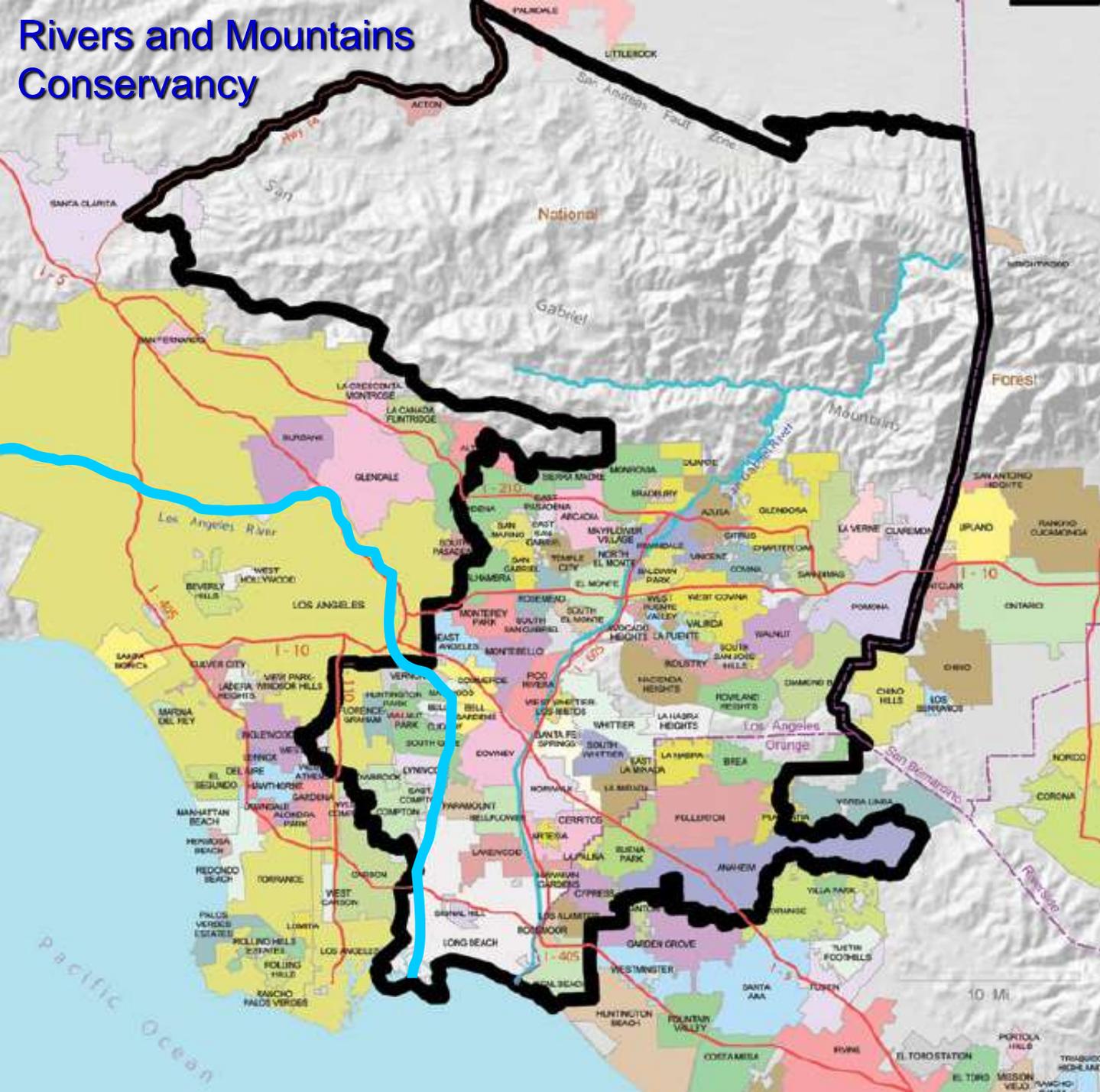
-  Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Zone/ Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor Boundary
-  Upper LA River Watershed

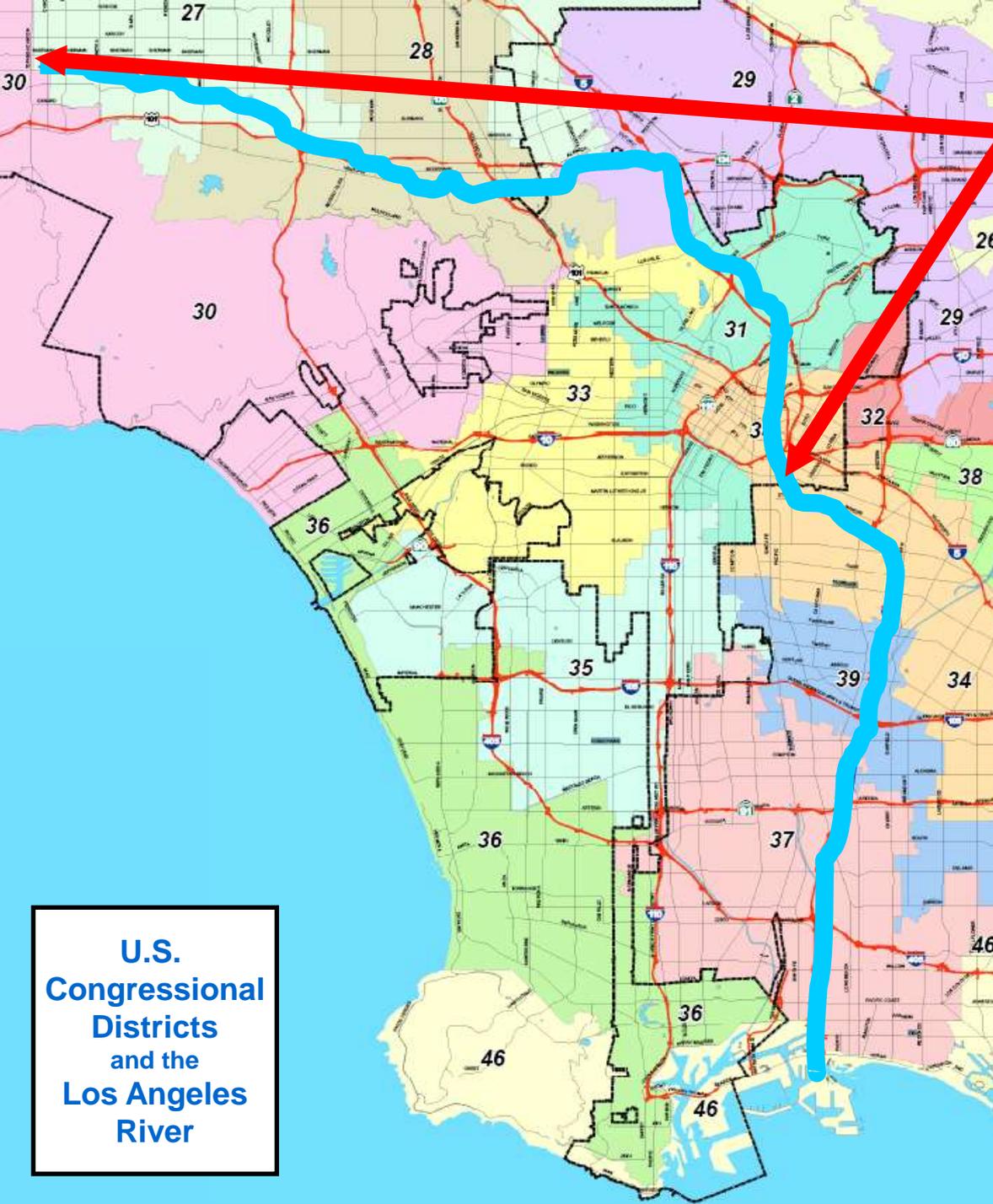


Rivers and Mountains Conservancy

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U.S. Congressional Districts and the Los Angeles River

Within the City of LA, the LA River Corridor is Home to:

- More than 1 million people (2000)*
- More than 390,000 housing units (2000)
- More than 480,000 workers (2000)
- More than 35,000 businesses (2003)
- More than 80 schools (2004-5)

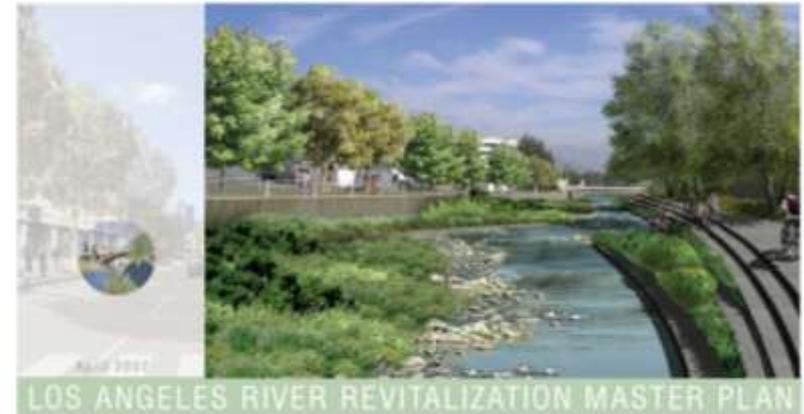
All River Communities are Hit Hard by Unemployment:

- Nationwide: 9.2%
- LA County: 11.9%
- LA City: 13.1%
- Burbank: 9.7%
- Glendale: 10.4%
- Commerce: 22%
- Maywood: 17.1%
- Bell: 15.6%
- Bell Gardens: 18.7%
- South Gate: 15.1%
- Lynwood: 18.6%
- Compton: 20%
- Paramount: 17.2%
- Carson: 12%
- Long Beach: 13%

*Year of data



- **Adopted May 2007**
- **32 miles**
- **20 to 50 year horizon**



- **More than 240 potential projects**

- **20 areas of targeted focus and 5 detailed opportunity areas**

- **3 new management entities**

- **Recommendations apply to tributaries also**

- **Recommends 32 mile bikeway/greenway that, when combined with LA County's efforts, represents a 51-mile River corridor (102 miles both sides):**

- **Reduce the urban heat island effect**

- **Decrease GHG emissions**

- **Provide access to open space and recreation for underserved communities**

- **Serve as a means of non-motorized commuting to jobs across the region**



THE LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN

OUR RIVER, OUR FUTURE

USC Greenvisions Habitat & Linkages Study Species



SIMI HILLS

SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAINS

SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS



Connect Regional Habitat and "Significant Ecological Areas" with Wildlife Corridors on the Los Angeles River and Tributaries

Increase Connectivity to Habitat Fragments and Patches

Enhance and Expand Riparian and Aquatic Habitat

Future Possibilities Through LA River Revitalization



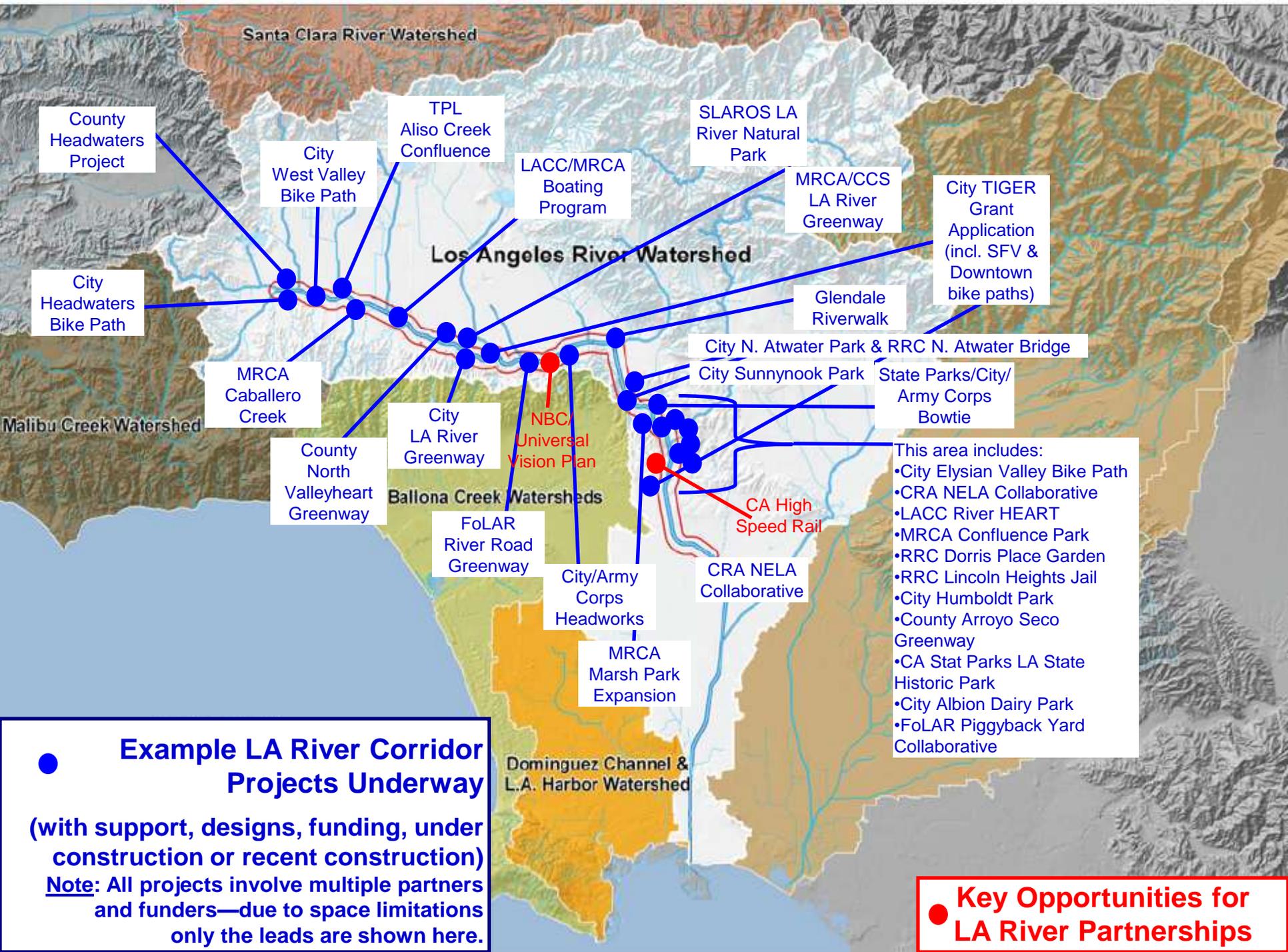
- Enhance flood storage, water quality, and public access
- Restore a functional riparian ecosystem and reduce flow velocity



Green the Entire River

- Take a gradual, phased approach
- Create a 102-mile River Greenway





County Headwaters Project

City West Valley Bike Path

TPL Aliso Creek Confluence

LACC/MRCA Boating Program

SLAROS LA River Natural Park

MRCA/CCS LA River Greenway

City TIGER Grant Application (incl. SFV & Downtown bike paths)

City Headwaters Bike Path

Los Angeles River Watershed

Glendale Riverwalk

MRCA Caballero Creek

City N. Atwater Park & RRC N. Atwater Bridge

City Sunnynook Park

State Parks/City/Army Corps Bowtie

Malibu Creek Watershed

County North Valleyheart Greenway

City LA River Greenway

NBC Universal Vision Plan

CA High Speed Rail

This area includes:

- City Elysian Valley Bike Path
- CRA NELA Collaborative
- LACC River HEART
- MRCA Confluence Park
- RRC Dorris Place Garden
- RRC Lincoln Heights Jail
- City Humboldt Park
- County Arroyo Seco Greenway
- CA Stat Parks LA State Historic Park
- City Albion Dairy Park
- FoLAR Piggyback Yard Collaborative

Ballona Creek Watersheds

FoLAR River Road Greenway

City/Army Corps Headworks

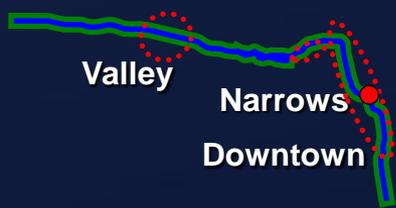
CRA NELA Collaborative

MRCA Marsh Park Expansion

Dominguez Channel & L.A. Harbor Watershed

● Example LA River Corridor Projects Underway
 (with support, designs, funding, under construction or recent construction)
Note: All projects involve multiple partners and funders—due to space limitations only the leads are shown here.

● Key Opportunities for LA River Partnerships



LA River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study

50%-50% cost-sharing partnership between the US Army Corps of Engineers and the City of LA

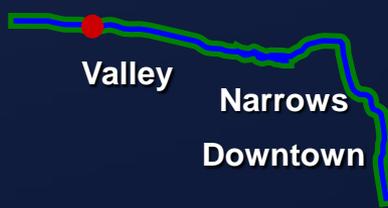
Started in 2006; completion date dependent upon federal funding

Focuses on 10-mile, mostly soft-bottomed stretch of the LA River known as the “ARBOR” area

Will propose strategies to restore ecological value by connecting up- and downstream and in-stream to outer-bank habitat



Alternative with
Restoration
Benefits and
Opportunities for
Revitalization



IN CONSTRUCTION!



- Adds 2.2 miles to the LA River Greenway
- Mason to Vanalden on the south bank of the River
- Includes bike path, greening, and bridge retrofits
- Awarded State funds for greenway portion of project

Channel Demolition



07/21/2011

Channel Excavation & Rough Grading



JOBS!





Valley

Narrows

Downtown

Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan Priority Projects

LA Riverfront Greenway: Coldwater-Whitsett, No. 87

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS, BUREAU OF ENGINEERING





Valley

Narrows

Downtown

Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan Priority Projects
LA Riverfront Greenway: Coldwater-Whitsett, No. 87
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS, BUREAU OF ENGINEERING



GROUNDBREAKING EXPECTED 2012!

- Approximately one-half mile, connects to existing downstream segment
- Extends from Coldwater to Whitsett on the south/west bank of the River
- Includes bike path, greening, and interpretive/educational signage
- City Proposition K “LA for Kids” funded project



Proposed Bikeways

Lane	Red line
Path	Green line
Route	Blue line

- City is seeking federal TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) funds for the LA River Bike Path and links to it
- Will complete River bikeway connection to and from the Sepulveda Basin, through Studio City and sections of the on-street network into Downtown LA
- Submitted pre-application on October 3rd, 2011

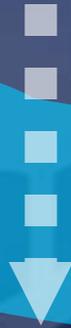


LOS ANGELES RIVER IMPROVEMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT

- **Recommendation of the LA River Revitalization Master Plan**
- **Guidelines and standards addressing watershed, urban design and mobility alternatives**
- **Public Hearing November 3rd, 2011 at LA City Hall**



Governmental: River Cooperation



A cooperative agreement between the City & the County for the River Right-of-Way with Army Corps participation by MOU

Established 2010
www.lariver.org/rcc

Entrepreneurial: River Revitalization Corporation



A nonprofit, nongovernmental organization tasked with implementing the Plan through land development and project management

Established 2009
www.larivercorp.com

America's Great Outdoors Initiative Delegation Visits the Los Angeles River July 2010



(Photo (l to r): Jared Blumenfeld, Regional Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region 9; Deborah Weintraub, Chief Deputy City Engineer, City of LA/Bureau of Engineering; Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, US Army Corps of Engineers; Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer, City of LA/Bureau of Engineering (back row); Nancy Sutley, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality, Executive Office of the President (front row); Lisa Jackson, Administrator, USEPA; Will Shafroth, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, US Department of the Interior; Harris Sherman, Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, US Department of Agriculture; Romel Pascual, Deputy Mayor, City of Los Angeles)

Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa presents



"Buenos Dias Los Angeles II" by Leo Limón

L.A. River Day of Service

El Río de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Ángeles de Porciúncula
Saturday, April 30 • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



7 Urban Areas + 11 Federal Agencies



National Announcement: June 2011

Local Announcement in LA: Expected Fall 2011

August 8, 2011

**Colonel Mark Toy
Helps Launch the
First LA River Pilot
Boating Program!**



The pilot program was run by youth from the LA Conservation Corps—LA River Corps—and rangers from the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.





THE LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION

OUR RIVER, OUR FUTURE

Next Steps

- **Help direct State funds to LA River projects, including:**

- Aliso Creek Confluence/ Reseda River Loop Project
- Caballero Creek Confluence Project
- North Valleyheart Greenway (Fulton to Coldwater, North Bank)
- LA River Greenway (Coldwater to Whisett, North Bank)
- Glendale Riverwalk
- River HEART Project
- Marsh Park Expansion
- Albion Dairy Park

- **Help with key large site acquisitions**

- **Help with advocacy for federal LA River projects, including the US Army Corps LA River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study**

